

reason I am offering this amendment, although I think Senator Abboud had a very good faith effort and believes very strongly in the need to have regulations for all subdivisions of government when they purchase products, but I don't feel that this is the right vehicle, so what this amendment does is it strikes a portion of the committee amendments that brings in school districts, brings in cities and returns this bill to the general thrust by which it was introduced and that is to include only counties. For that reason I ask you to adopt the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, did you wish to speak about the amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I was part of the minority of the committee who did not think that this bill should include Class I cities and Class III school districts. I support the Withem amendment. It seems to me that the bill was drawn for counties. It was not drawn in consultation with cities or with schools and it's appropriate to return to the focus that this bill was meant to have when it was introduced. I support the Withem amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Peterson, then Senator Lundy.

SENATOR R. PETERSON: Mr. President and members, I rise to oppose the Withem amendment. It was sent out of committee as it was and I was on the Government Committee that heard the bill. I feel that the cities and the schools should comply just like the counties do. Why are they any better? The eleven guidelines used in LB 393 are the same as the competitive bidding guidelines used by the State of Nebraska found in Section 10 of the bill, pages 7 and 8. The rules are broad enough so that the State of Nebraska has had no problem buying products using these competitive bidding guidelines. If a large buyer like the State of Nebraska has had no problem with using these eleven guidelines then school districts and cities shouldn't either as far as I am concerned. I see no reason why we should exclude the cities and the schools out of this bill. I think they should have it there and I think we should leave it there and I ask you to reject the Withem amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lundy, then Senator Lynch.